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financial credit card numbers, et cetera, very, very accessible to people who know how to hack into systems. And, in fact, we are finding that people are being victimized right here in Nebraska. This isn't a crime on the coast, this is a crime right here at home. We've been passing out stories to you, as the days have passed, and those are stories that come right out of Nebraska. They're here in our...in our state. And people are finding that it's very, very difficult to go to the store and cash a check like you and I can, because, in fact, they've been victimized at some point and they have now been tagged. The bill has three major elements. I will tell you the first is that identifies or establishes the crime of identity theft. The second thing is that it provides restitution to the victim. For me that was very, very important because many, many times we look at crime and we say let's lock them up and throw away the key. That's not the issue here, we want to make the victim And so there is a provision for restitution to the victim and there is also a provision where court documents are placed in their hands so that they can, in fact, go back to their creditors and reestablish their credit and prove their innocence of the crime. For instance, someone has had their identity stolen, they find out when they go to apply for a house loan or a car loan that, in fact, they have a bad credit rating. You can't just go to the credit bureau and say, you know, wasn't me, especially if at any point in your history you may have had a...a check bounce on you. And there are many people that have had. So, in fact, it's very, very difficult for the victim without these documents in their hand to prove their innocence. The committee does have some amendments to the bill. They are looking at trying to integrate it into our current statutory system, and that s the goal here. Our goal here is to provide some kind of help for victims, some kind of tool for the prosecution, so that. in fact, we can discourage the growth of this crime in the state of Nebraska. With that, I'm going to close and allow the committee amendment to be introduced.

## SENATOR COORDSEN PRESIDING

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you...excuse me. Thank you, Senator Redfield. Senator Brashear, for the committee amendment opening.